

**RESULTS OF VERIFICATION**  
**Montana Local Education Agencies**  
**School Year 2005-06**

The results of verification this year are positive, and indicate a high level of integrity in the administration of the School Nutrition Programs in Montana. Only 24 (14.7 %) LEAs had less than 80% response rate (meaning that more than 20% of the applicants selected for verification at their school did NOT respond). This is a decrease from the previous year where 36 (15 %) LEAs had less than 80% response rate.

Of the 85.3 % of households that responded, error (indicated by a change in benefits, either positive or negative) was found in 29.4 % of applications. That means 70.6 % of all applications verified in Montana during 2005-06 were correct at the time that they were turned in. Two additional statistics worth noting is, one, the number of students that were directly certified (not included in the verification pool) increased from 7,635 in 2004-05 to 10,604 in 2005-06; and two, the total number of verified applications was reduced by 143 (239 in 05 to 96 in 06). These improvements are most likely the result of schools using the food stamp participation list from the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services. Increased direct certification has positive implications for the ability of schools to provide benefits to eligible students. Thank you for your hard work to get this information returned to the School Nutrition Programs office on time, and for your excellence in maintaining your free and reduced-price meal applications.

**RESULTS OF VERIFICATION, BY CATEGORY**

	<b>Free Eligible based on FS/TANF/FDPIR number</b>		<b>Free Eligible based on income/household size</b>		<b>Reduced-Price Eligible</b>	
	<i>Number of applications</i>	<i>Percent of total</i>	<i>Number of applications</i>	<i>Percent of total</i>	<i>Number of applications</i>	<i>Percent of total</i>
<b>Responded and No Change</b>	85	9.47%	362	40.31%	187	20.8%
<b>Responded, changed to Free</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	29	3.32%
<b>Responded, changed to Reduced</b>	6	.67%	48	5.35%	N/A	N/A
<b>Responded, changed to Paid</b>	2	.22%	14	1.56%	36	3%
<b>Did NOT respond</b>	3	.33%	80	8.91%	49	5.46%
<b>Total Applications 898/100%</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>10.69%</b>	<b>504</b>	<b>56.12%</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>33.18%</b>

